

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 NIC-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 SAB-01 SAM-01

DRC-01 /152 W

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R 221556Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8958

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USINTERESTS DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 3182

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: XF UR PFOR

SUBJ: SOVIET ATTITUDES TOWARD SECRETARY KISSINGER'S EFFORTS
IN MIDDLE EAST

1. SUBJECT CAME UP IN LUNCHEON CONVERSATION BETWEEN DCM AND
DEPUTY CHIEF OF SOVIET COMMERCIAL MISSION IN MADRID, BOGOMOLOV
(REPORTED BY MEMCON BEING SENT IN POUCH LEAVING TOMORROW).
IN REPLY TO EMBOFF'S REFERENCE TO COMMON INTEREST OF US AND
USSR IN OPPOSING TERRORIST ACTS IN MIDEAST WHICH TOOK INNOCENT
VICTIMS, THE SOVIET OFFICIAL STATED THAT PALESTINIAN TERRORIST
ACTS WERE BOUND TO CONTINUE SO LONG AS THERE WAS NO BASIC
SOLUTION WHICH RECOGNIZED THE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS AND ARABS.
WHEN EMBOFF NOTED THAT ISSUES AND EMOTIONS INVOLVED WERE VERY
DEEP-SEATED, THAT BASIC SOLUTION WOULD REQUIRE LONG SUSTAINED
EFFORT AND THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER WAS TRYING TO MAKE WHAT-
EVER PROGRESS WAS POSSIBLE IN EXISTING CIRCUMSTANCES, BOGOMOLOV
RETORTED THAT SECRETARY WAS DOING "PATCHWORK" JOB WHICH IN
LONG RUN COULD LEAD TO NEW CONFLICT IN MIDDLE EAST. EMBOFF
SAID THAT SECRETARY WAS TRYING TO FIND SOME WAY OF
PUTTING END TO HOSTILITIES AS STEP TOWARD BASIC SETTLEMENT,
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WHILE IT SEEMED AS IF SOVIETS WERE SUPPORTING SYRIAN BELLI-

GERENCE THROUGH CONTINUING SUPPLY OF ARMS. BOGOMOLOV RESPONDED THAT THIS MIGHT BE IMPRESSION IN SOME QUARTERS BUT IT WAS BECOMING INCREASINGLY EVIDENT THAT SOVIETS WERE SEEKING A MORE BASIC SOLUTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST WHICH WOULD NOT LEAD TO NEW OUTBREAK OF WAR. KISSINGER, HE ADDED, COULD NOT DO THE JOB BY HIMSELF.

2. REPLYING TO EMBOFF'S COMMENT THAT SOVIET COOPERATION WAS OBVIOUSLY NECESSARY FOR ARAB-ISRAEL SETTLEMENT AND THAT SECRETARY HAD CONSULTED WITH GROMYKO IN CONNECTION WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS, AND TO QUESTION AS TO WHAT ALTERNATIVE BOGOMOLOV COULD SUGGEST TO THE SECRETARY'S CURRENT PEACE MAKING EFFORTS, THE SOVIET OFFICIAL SPECIFIED A RETURN TO THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. THE SOVIETS, HE SAID, HAD MUCH RESPECT FOR KISSINGER BUT THEY BELIEVED HIS EFFORTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST WERE TOO PERSONALIZED. THE SOVIETS HAD LEARNED FROM BITTER EXPERIENCE AND LOSSES THAT IT WAS BETTER TO PROCEED ON THE BASIS OF REAL INTERESTS THAN TO TRY TO OBTAIN GRATITUDE AND PERSONAL FAVOR.
RIVERO

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